## THE MADISONIAN.

THOMAS ALLEN. EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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## PROSPECTUS.

THE MADISONIAN will be devoted to the support of the principles and doctrines of the democratic party, as delineated by Mr. Madison, and will aim to consummate the principles and doctrines of the democratic party, as delineated by Mr. Madison, and will aim to consummate that political reform in the theory and practice of the national government, which has been repeatedly indicated by the general sufferage, as assential to the peace and prosperity of the country, and to the perfection and perpetuity of its free institutions. At this time a singular state of affairs is presented. The commercial interests of the country are overwhelmed with embarrassment; its monetary concerns are unusually disordered; every ramification of society is invaded by distress, and the social editice seems threatened with disorganization; every ear is filled with predictions of evil and the murmurings of despondency; the general government is boldly assailed by a large and respectable portion of the people, as the direct cause of their difficulties; open resistance to the laws is publicly encouraged, and a spirit of insubordination is fostered, as a necessary defence to the pretended usurpations of the party in power; some, from whom better things were hoped, are making the "confusion worse confounded," by a headlong pursuit of extreme notions and indefinite phantoms, totally incompatible with a wholesome state of the country. In the midst of all these difficulties and embarrassements, it is feared that many of the less firm of long parsuit of the totally incompatible with a wholesome state of the country. In the midst of all these difficulties and embarrassments, it is feared that many of the less firm of the friends of the administration and supporters of democratic principles are wavering in their confidence. democratic principles are wavering in their conductors, and beginning, without just cause, to view with distrust those men to whom they have been long attached, and whose elevation they have laboured to promote from honest and patriotic motives. Exulting in the anticipahonest and patriotic motives. Exciting in the anticipa-tion of dismay and confusion amongst the supporters of the administration as the consequence of these things, the opposition are consoling themselves with the idea that Mr. Van Buren's friends, as a untional party, are that Mr. Van Buren's triends, as a national party, are verging to dissolution; and they allow no opportunity to pass unimproved to give celat to their own doctrines. They are, indeed, maturing plans for their own future government of the country, with seeming confidence of

This confidence is increased by the fact, that visionary theories, and an unwise adherence to the plan for an exclusive metallic currency have unfortunately carried some beyond the actual and true policy of the government; and, by impairing public confidence in the credit system, which ought to be preserved and regulated, but not destroyed, have tended to increase the difficulties not destroyed, have tended to increase the dimensions under which the country is now labouring. All these seem to indicate the necessity of a new organ at the seat of government, to be established upon sound principles, and to represent faithfully, and not to dictate, the real policy of the administration, and the true sentiments, measures, and interests, of the great body of its sup-porters. The necessity also appears of the adoption of more conservative principles than the conduct of those seems to indicate who seek to remedy abuses by de-stroying the institutions with which they are found con-nected. Indeed some measure of contribution is deemed essential to the enhancement of our own self-respect at home, and to the promotion of the honor and credit of

To meet these indications this undertaking has been instituted, and it is hoped that it will produce the effect of inspiring the timid with courage, the desponding with hope, and the whole country with confidence in the administration of its government. In this view, this journal will not seek to lead, or to follow any faction, or men. It will aspire to accord a just measure of sup-port to each of the co-ordinate branches of the govern-ment, in the lawful exercise of their constitutional prerogatives. It will address itself to the understandings prerogatives. It will address itself to the understandings of men, rather than appeal to any unworthy prejudices or evil passions. It will rely invariably upon the principle, that the strength and security of American institutions depend upon the intelligence and virtue of the

THE MADISONIAN will not, in any event, be made the instrument of arraying the north and the south, the east and the west, in hostile attitudes towards each other, upon any subject of either general or local interest. It will reflect only that spirit and those principles of mutua will reflect only that spirit and those principles of mutual concession, compromise, and reciprocal good-will, which so eminently characterized the inception, formation, and subsequent adoption, by the several States, of the constitution of the United States. Moreover, in the same hallowed spirit that has, at all periods since the adoption of that sacred instrument, characterized ITS DEFENCE BY THE PEOPLE, our press will hasten to its support at every emergency that shall arise, from whatever quarter, and under whatever guise of philanthropy, policy, or principle, the antagonist power may appear.

If, in this responsible undertaking, it shall be our If, in this responsible undertaking, it shall be our good fortune to succeed to any degree in promoting the harmony and prosperity of the country, or in conciliating jealousies, and allaying the asperities of party warfare, by demeaning ourself amicably towards all; by indulging personal animosities towards none; by conducting ourself in the belief that it is perfectly practicable to differ with others in matters of principle and of expeiency, without a mixture of personal unkindness or loss reciprocal respect; and by "asking nothing that is no clearly right, and submitting to nothing that is wrong," then, and not otherwise, will the full measure its intention be accomplished, and our primary rule for its guidance be sufficiently observed and satisfied.

This enterprize has not been undertaken without the approbation, advisement, and pledged support of many of the leading and soundest minds in the ranks of the democractic republican party, in the extreme north and in the extreme south, in the east and in the west. An association of both political experience and talent of the highest order will render it competent to carry forward the principles by which it will be guided, and make it a political organ, and interesting as a journal Arrangements also have been made to fix the establishment upon a substantial and permanent basis. The subscriber, therefore, relies upon the public for so much of their confidence and encouragement only as the fidelity of his press to their great national interests shall fidelity of his press to the prove itself entitled to receive.

THOMAS ALLEN.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C. July, 1837.

BANK ABSTRACT. We are indebted to Mr. Bigelow, secretary of the Commonwealth, for a copy of the abstract from the returns of banks in Massachusetts, showing the state of those banks on the first Saturday of October, 1837. The following is the aggregate account. The whole number of banks is 129; capital stock paid in, \$38,-280,000, bills in circulation of five delayer, a 280,000; bills in circulation of five dollars and up-wards, \$7,654,366 46; bills in circulation less than five dollars, \$2,618,752 25; nett profits on hand, \$1,514,535 39; balances due to other banks, \$5,721. \$1,514,535 39; balances due to other banks, \$5,721,989 54; cash deposited, &c., not bearing interest, \$5,592,250 59; due from the banks, \$69,860,128 45; gold, silver, &c. in banks, \$1,517,984 02; real estate, \$1,155,722 96; bills of banks in this state, \$2,796,976 14; bills of banks elsewhere, \$191,641 28; balances due from other banks, \$5,814,224 04; due to the banks, excepting bilances, \$58,414,182 39; total resources of the banks, \$69,940,049 83; amount of the last semi-annual dividend \$1,060,330; amount of reserved profits, \$1,555,551 99; debts secured by pledge of stock, \$2,139,525 52; debts due and considered doubtful, \$750,540 57; rate of semi-annual sidered doubful, \$750,540 57; rate of semi-annual dividend on amount of capital of the banks, as existing when dividend was made, a fraction more than 2 and 13-16 of one per cent.—Buston Transcript

A Match for the Kentucky Giant.-The Maysville A Match for the Kentucky Giant.—The major the Monator, mentions a young lady named Browning, residing in Fleming County, Kentucky, just seventeen years of age, who measures seven feet in height. Porter, the giant, is said to stand seven feet and five inches in his stocking feet.

## THE MADISONIAN.

WASHINGTON CITY, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1837.

VOL. I.

NO. 45.

A TRAGEDY OF THE AMERICAN WOODS. From the Loudon Metropolitan for October.

Just as the shades of evening were beginning to unshroud the deep valley that reposes at the foot of the wild and lofty Pochono mountains, I approached a lone cottage which was marked out on my travelling chart as the place for me to pass the night in. Although I had never been in that part of the country, yet the building of squared logs or "blocks" that now presented itself, was in some measure an old acquaintance, since poor, and lonely, and cheerless as it seemed it had acquired name in the history of that part of the country with which it was connected. Its wooden walls were blackened with the tempests of half a century, and the traditionary tales connected with it were familiar to every child in the distant settlement. A person of the name of Larner had been induced to settle here before any of the valleys in the Southern district of country (now full of people) contained one white inhabitant. What induced this hardy man to bury himself and a young family in the wilderness so far from all the pale-faces, as the Indians called the white people in

those days, is difficult to conceive.

On his way to this seeluded dell he must have passed through many a valley which presented a fertile soil and a more serene climate; but induced by some feeling which must now forever remain a secret, Larner, with a wife and four or five children, accompanied by a younger brother, took possession of the extreme head of a mountain valley, and there built the sombre-looking building now before me. It has been surmised by many, that the contiguity to the adjoining mountain was his chief inducement to settle here, for he was a remarkably keen hunter. There certainly were more wolves and panthers in that vicinity than in any other part of the state, besides an abundance of elk and deer, with a great variety of game of smaller note. They did not devote their time exclusively to hunting; for when they had resided here some half score years, they had managed to clear away the forest trees from a few acres of land, sufficient to grow more grain than the family would consume. About this period they were waited on by two Indian warriors of the Six Indians, who informed the Larners, that, if they valued their own safety, they must immediately fly from the abode they had so long inhabited. This piece of intelligence which was delivered with apparent sincerity, was at the time but little heeded, for although they had never before been actually threatened by the Indians who had occasionally visited them they had sometimes used a little caution when they suspected a party of Indians were

any where in the vicinity.

One day, shortly after the visit of the two warriors, the younger of the brothers returned from an excursion on the mountain, with the somewhat startling intelligence that he had crossed, in his way down the trail of an Indian party; and he should judge from its appearance that the number was something considerable. He farther stated, that he had, from the summit of the adjoining hill, carefully surveyed the forests all around; but no curling smoke rose above the green foliage (for it was summer,) to denote their hunting fires, neither had he heard the report of fire arms during the whole day. To those acquainted with the subilety of the Indian character, this report was somewhat alarming, and the lone family determined to be circumspect in all their movements. Their arms consisted of three rifles, one used by each of the brothers, and the remaining one by the eldest son, a stout youth of nineteen. It was agreed that they should keep watch during the night—the bro-thers and the son taking it by turns—and the fire was exunguished before it became quite

father of the family was keeping watch, he thought he perceived a bright spark of fire the customs of those barbarians; and they meadow in the direction of the house, and as there still. This information was some time it came nearer he distinctly saw part of the body of a naked Indian. There was no mistaking the intention of the incendiary; and as all was parched and dry with the scorching suns of July, a fire once kindled against the ime-seasoned log walls of their dwelling, the whole dwelling would be in a blaze in a few minutes. Larner was in the upper story in an opening in one end of the building; but as the Indian came nearer he changed his course a little as if he intended to make his fire in the rear of the house. It was a moment of extreme anxiety with Larner. If he permitted the villain to pass the rear of the building, they were all in a short time to be burnt, and most probably massacred by the merciless beings, no doubt in ambush close by. If he fired and shot him, retribution would certainly await them all, and in either case he consider ed them a doomed family. But he did fire and long before the reverberations were silent in the adjoining mountains, the Indian had given one lofty bound and shrieked the shriek of death. The report of the rifle brought the whole family to his side, and he related to them all that had taken place; and it seemed a matter of doubt whether the Indians would attack them under cover of the yet remaining darkness, or postpone their onset until the re It seems they did wait for daylight, and when it returned they commenced firing at the different windows or openings. wherever they imagined they might reach the inmates. This plan, however, had not much effect. One of the younger chil Iren received its death wound; but the rest escaped unharmed for the present.

As I before stated, in the back part of these buildings there was no opening. The Indians finding the plan of firing at the windows not likely to produce much effect, determined upon making a circuit through the neighboring woods, and thereby gain the defenceless rear of the dwelling. This plan, however, was anticipated by the besieged; for when the firing ceased, the Larners suspected they would make this movement. two brothers, therefore, without much difficulty contrived to make two small openings in the shingled roof; and when the assailants emerged from the woods behind the building, the two leaders were instantly shot down .-The rest, unappalled, rushed forward, and before the brothers could re-load their pieces, there were a score of the savages under the chesnut trees) without being able to bring the shelter of the building. The son, too, had least intelligence of the child. After reposing not been idle; for by thrusting one half of his themselves for some minutes, they formed

the house, and he made one of them bite the dust. Yet, after all, what availed it? The Indians would instantly set fire to the house, and they would all be burnt alive. The bro thers, therefore, resolved upon the family quitting the premises, and making for the woods. But this plan was nearly fatal to the whole party; for before they had crossed the slight hollow in front of the woods the two brothers and three of the children fell to rise no more.

powerful Indian, who pursued him across the field of growing rye. They were each armed with a rifle, but neither of them stopped to fire. Young Larner perceived that the In-dian gained rapidly upon him, for his knee had been slightly injured by a ball, bethought himself of a stratagem which ultimately saved him. Some of the party near the house were yet occasionally firing at the fugitives that made for the woods, so young Larner, as if he had received a death wound, fell amongst the tall grain. The Indian instantly squatted in the grain also, being apparently suspicious of some trick in his intended victim; but in a short time he raised himself upon his knees, in order to scrutinize where young Larner lay, when the young fellow who had been arranging his piece for such an occasion, fired upon the Indian and shot him in the brain.— He did not wait to re-load, but, in spite of the soreness of his knee, pushed for the woods which were but a short distance. Once be hind a sheltering tree, he re-loaded his rifle and having done so, had the satisfaction to find that none of the surviving Indians pursued him; there were many of them engaged in scalping his father and uncle, and a younger brother, and two sisters—while others were in pursuit of his mother and eldest sister, who had succeeded in reaching the

For two nights he continued to wander in

the forest, but during the day he remained hidden in some hollow tree. At last, hungered and weary, he reached a distant settlement on the river Delaware, the inhabitants of which immediately formed themselves into an armed party, and set off for the scene of slaughter. On reaching the place they pre-sently discovered the dead bodies of nine Indians, the two brothers, and the remainder o the family, except the eldest daughter and Mrs. L. The two last mentioned, it was evident, had been carried off by the surviving Indians, for their bodies were nowhere to be found. This party remained three or four days in the vicinity of these late scenes of blood; but the mother and daughter returned not. From this period the place was desert ed for some years; but the surviving young Larner marrying, he and his wife took posses sion of the lone and blood-stained-dwelling The tribe of Indians had removed far away to the vicinity of the Seneca and Ciaga lakes; so that there was no longer any danger to be apprehended from such rude and barbarous eighbors.-Years rolled on and brought with them a new generation of that devoted family; but more than twenty years passed away without any tidings of the missing females About this period some settlers from the part of the country where the Larners originally resided, located themselves in the vicinity of the before mentioned lakes, where they lived in peace and good-will with their neighbors the Indians; and from whom they learned the fate of the missing mother and daughter.

They stated that they were pursued and oon captured in the woods; and although they would only submit to be dragged along by force, in that manner they proceeded for a portion of two days. But this mode of proceeding was found so inconvenient to the party, that when they reached the caves in the Moose Mountain, a council was held on their Some hours after midnight, and while the prisoners, when they were adjudged to die. They were then tomahawked according to advancing slowly across the small piece of no doubt but their skeletons might be found afterwards imparted to the son and brother o the deceased, who, embracing the first opportunity, accompanied by their friends, repaired to Moose Mountain, sought out the caves that were almost entirely unknown to white men and found two skeletons-in the very position they had fallen beneath the tomahawks of

their murderers. They were then removed with much care and labor to the residence of the son, who with true filial affection, interred them in the same grave with the mouldering bodies of their departed kindred. At the time I visited the lone dwelling, the son who had escaped the family massacre was still occupying it. was now old and gray headed but he still occasionally took his rifle into the woods in pur suit of game. He, too, had been the father of a family of sons and daughters, now all grown up, and all except one, I believe, married and settled, one or two in his own dis trict, but the others had been induced to wander away to the far west. He is still looked upon with a sort of veneration; and scarce a lone traveller ever visits him to whom he does not relate the lamentable fate of his fa

THE LOST CHILD .- A THRILLING STORY. In the county of Ulster, in the neighborhood o Pennsylvania, lived a man, whose name was Le Fever, he was the grandson of a French man, who was obliged to fly to this country a the revocation of the edict of Nantes. might well have been called the last of mankind, for he possessed a plantation on the very verge of the valley towards the Blue Mountains, a place of refuge for animals of

the deer kind.

This man having a family of eleven children, (a thing by no means uncommon in that country,) was greatly alarmed one morning at missing the youngest, who was about four years of age—he disappeared about ten o'clock. The distressed father sought him in the river, and in the fields, but to no pur pose. Terrified to an extreme degree, they united with their neighbors in quest of him They entered the woods, which they beat over with the most scrupulous attention. A thousand times they called him by name, and were answered only by the echoes of the wilds. They then assembled themselves a the foot of the mountains of Chatagniers (o themselves for some minutes, they formed person through the end window, he had been into different bands-and night coming on, enabled to fire upon them as they rushed for the parents in dispair refused to return home;

for their fright constantly increased by the knowledge they had of mountain cats, an ani-mal so rapacious, that the inhabitants cannot always defend themselves against their at-They then painted to their imagination the horrid idea of a wolf, or some other dreadful animal, devouring their darling child. "Derick, my poor little Derick! where art thou?" frequently exclaimed the mother in the most poignant language—but all was of no

As soon as daylight appeared, they renew ed their search, but as unsuccessfully as the preceding day. Fortunately an Indian laden with furs, coming from an adjacent village, called at the house of Le Fever, intending to repose himself there as he usually did on his travelling through that part of the country. He was much surprised to find no one at home but an old negress, kept there by infirmities. "Where is my brother ?" said the Indian. "Alas!" replied the negro woman "he lost, his little Derick, and all the neighborhood are employed in looking after him in the It was then three o'clock in the afternson. "Sound the horn," said the Indian, try and call your master home-I will find his child." The horn was sounded; and as soon as the father returned, the Indian asked him for the shoes and stockings that Derick had worn last. He then ordered his dog, which he brought with him to smell of themand then taking the house for his centre, he described a circle of a quarter of a mile, semi-diameter; ordering the dog to smell the earth wherever he led him. The circle was not completed when the sagacious animal began to bark. This sound brought some feeble ray of hope to the disconsolate parents. The dog followed the scent, and barked again, the party pursued him with all their speed, but soon lost sight of him in the woods. Half an hour afterwards they heard him again, and saw him return. The countenance of the poor dog was visibly altered; an air of joy seemed to animate him, and his gestures seemed to indicate that his search had not

been in vain. "I am sure he has found the child!" exclaimed the Indian. But whether dead or alive, was at present the cruel suspense. The Indian then followed him to the foot of a large tree where lay the child in an en-

feebled state, nearly approaching death. He took it tenderly in his arms, and hastily carried it to the disconsolate parents. Happily, they were both in some measure prepared to receive the child. Their joy was se great that it was more than a quarter of an hour before they could express their gratitude to the kind restorer of their child. Words cannot express the affecting scene. After they had bathed the face of the child with tears, they threw themselves on the neck of the Indian, whose heart in unision melted with tears. Their gratitude was then extended to the good dog-they caressed him with inexpressible delight as the animal who by means of his sagacity had found their offspring: and conceived that, like the rest of the group, he must now stand in need of refreshments, a plentiful repast was prepared for him, after which he and his master pursued their journey, and the company mutually pleased with the happy event, returned to their respective habitations, highly delighted with the kind Indian and his wonderful dog.

From the Army and Navy Chronicle. The following letter, written by Major Ge neral Jesup, to a friend in this city, explaining his motives for the seizure of Powell and other chiefs and warriors, and the measures which were adopted on the occasion, has been furnished for publication. It gives the details of a very interesting event in this protracted ty of the committee approve them-the minority can do war, and we have thought it not only well space devote General Jesup that his motives should be

However revolting the violation of a flag of truce may at first appear, yet when we reflect that the General was dealing with savages, who had once forfeited their plighted faith, and deceived him-that the interview was sought by them, and probably with the worst of motives-it is believed that he will not only be justified by public opinion, on the expediency of the measure, but will be commended

PICOLATA, Nov. 17, 1837.

DEAR SIR:—As I shall depart to-day for the interior and, in the casualties of an active campaign, it is possi-ble I may not return, I desire that the seizure of Powell and other chiefs and warriors may be understood by my

Powell, Coacoochee, the two Hickses, and several rowell, Coacoonee, the two rickess, and several other sub-chiefs, organized the abduction of Micanopy and other hostages, in June last. Coacoochee, John Cavallo, (the latter one of the hostages,) with several others, carried the bostages off, and with them their people. I then resolved to take all who were concernothers, earried in the people. I then resolved to take all who were concerned in the measure, whenever the opportunity might present. The capture of Philip, by Gen. Hernandez opened the way to effect my object sooner than I had hoped. Coacooche carried off Micanopy by force, and if he had been a white man I would have executed him the model. The people was not been a white my hands. His father, (Philip,) ment be came into my hands. His father, (Philip. however, asked permission to send him out with messages to the chiefs and warriors. He returned with on of my hostages, John Cavallo, and with most of the sub-chiefs and warriors who were concerned in the abduc-tion. I determined, at once, that they should be siezed and held as hosteges for the conduct of the chiefs and

I gave Lieut. Peyton, commanding at Fort Peyton, confidential order to seize them if they should come into the fort. Late at night, however, I learned from General Hernandez that they could not be induced to come into the fort, and the messenger whom they sent in, John Cavallo, my hostage, desired the General to meet them at their camp, without an escort, saying would be perfectly safe among them without troops. I observed to the General, that wherever John Cavallo was, foul play might be expected, and I had no doubt the intention of the Indians was to seize a sufficient number of officers to exchange for Philip and the Euchie chiefs, and I directed that he should increase his escort. I requested him to call in the morning for final instructions, and I sent an express to Licut. Peyton, with a note, informing him that he would have no opportunity to execute my confidential order, and he not attempt it unless the whole force should place them-selves within his power; but that he must trust to

On the morning of the 21st, Gen. Hernandez called on the morning of the 21st, Gen. Hernandez called for final instructions. I then informed him that I was inclined not to permit the Indians to escape, and I gave him a memorandum of the heads of the conversation I desired him to hold with them, of which paper No. 2 is a copy. The General departed to Fort Peyton, accompanied by a number of officers and citizens; among the former were the gentlemen of my staff. Without panied by a number of officers and citizens; among the former were the gentlemen of my staff. Without communicating my intention to any one, I followed to the neighborhood of Fort Peyton, sent in for Lieutenant Peyton, and ascertained from him the number and position of the Indians; I directed him to go forward and ascertain whether the answers of the Indians, to the inquiries made by Gen. Hernandez, seemed satisfactory. In the meantime I detached an aid, who had joined me, with orders to Gen.

Lieut Peyton returned to Fort Peyton, whither I had gone, and related to me the substance of the answers given by the Indians. Their answers were evasive and unsatisfactory, and I sent, by Dr. Finlay, an order of which No. 3 is a copy, to seize them. The measure was so promptly and judiciously executed by Major Ashby, of the 2d Dragoons, that the Indians, though their rifles were loaded and primed, ready for action, had not an opportunity to fire a single gun.

I consider the force of the nation broken by this capture; and though we may have a month or two of

capture; and though we may have a month or two of hard service, I think the war must terminate early thin

Most respectfully and truly yours, TH. S. JESUP.

St. Augusting, 20th October. Sr. Augustine, 20th October.
Should Powell and his warriors come within the fort, sieze him and his whole party. It is important that he, Wild Cat, John Cowagee, and Tustenuggee, be secured. Hold them until you have my orders in relative to the control of the c

TH. S. JESUP,

Lieut. R. H. PEVTON, Fort Peyton.

No. 2.

Memorandum for Gen: Hernandez.

"Ascertain the object of the Indians in coming in at this time; also their expectations. Are they prepared to deliver all the negroes taken from the citizens, at once? Why have they not surrendered them already, as promised by Coa-Hajo, at Fert King? Have the chiefs of the nation held a council in relation to the subjects of the talk at Fort King? What chiefs attended that council, and what was their determination? Have the chiefs sent a messenger with the decision of the the chiefs sent a messenger with the decision of the council? Have the principal chiefs, Micanopy, Jumper, Cloud, and Alligator, sent a messenger? and if so, what is their message? Why have not these chiefs come in themselves?

THOMAS S. JESUP.
Sr. Augustine, 21st Oct., 1837.

FORT PEYTON, 21st Oct., 1837.

FORT PEYTON, 21st Oct., 1837.

General: Let the chiefs and warriors know that we have been deceived by them long enough, and that we do not intend to be deceived again. Order the whole party directly to town—you have force sufficient to compel obedience, and they must move instantly. I have information of a recent murder by the Indians—they must be disarmed—they can talk in town and send any messages out they please.

THOMAS S. JESUP THOMAS S. JESUP.

Gen. J. M. HERNANDEZ.

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS AND THE HON, MR. FLETCHER.

Below will be found a statement of the majority of the Committee of Ways and Means, repelling the state-ment published in regard to their conduct during the last session, by the member from Boston.

The undersigned have seen, with surprise, an attack made upon the majority of the Committee of Way and Means, by the Hon. Richard Fletcher, of Massa and Means, by the Hon. Richard Fletcher, of Massa-chusetts, a member of that Committee at the late extra session. In a speech purporting to have been delivered in Fanneil Hall, and published in the Atlas and other papers in Boston, the place of that member's residence, the following statement and charges are made, and have not, to their knowledge, been disavowed by him. He says that:

"During the session, the business projects upon which the House were called to act, came almost entirely from the Committee of Ways and Means. There are nine members of that committee, only two of whom are understood to be opposed to the general policy of the administration. I suppose you would like to know the manner in which the business was arranged for the House. manner in which the business was arranged for the House. I will tell you the Ways—the Means you will see in due time. You doubtless suppose that this Committee of Ways and Means has some duty to do; some ways to devise; some means to find out, some plans to originate and mature for the action of the House. The committee you imagine, look over the message; see what is recommended to be done for the benefit of the country; consult together as to the best measures, and lay the result of their deliberations before the House. Is this your idea, Mr. President! Is this what you think, fellow citizens! If it is, I am sorry to inform you, that you labor under a very great mistake. I once enteryou labor under a very great mistake. I once enter-tained the same ideas; but I soon found my error. No such thing, sir—no such thing. The chairman of the committee steps up to the White House, and there receives from the President or the Secretary of the Treasury such bills as they wish to have passed by the House. The chairman puts the bills into his pocket—takes them to the committee, without any examination—the majori nothing—the bills are presented to the House, and re-ceived as the doings of the committee.

'I aver to you that every important bill passed by the "I aver to you that every important bill passed by the House, came to the House, ready drawn, from the Executive. The Representatives are mere machines.— Every measure is an Executive measure. I mean by the Executive, the President, and the heads of Departments—the cabinet. They originate every thing, put every thing into the precise shape they wish, word for word, letter, for letter, comma for comma; and the Executive majority in the House pass each bill forthwith without alteration—and so far as depends upon them, without debate; just as it comes from their masters at the White House."

The member from Massachusetts alleges that the

The member from Massachusetts alleges that the chairman of the committee "steps up to the White House, and there receives from the President or the Secretary of the Treasury, such bills as they wished to have passed by the House. The chairman puts the bills into his pocket, takes them to the committee, without imation the majority of the committee approve

The chairman of the committee states in reply, that he had no consultation whatever with the President con-cerning any one of the bills reported by the committee, nor did he receive either of the bills, or any part of either, from him. The usage from the commer of the government has been for the committee, throughts chairman, to consult the head of the Department, regard to such measures as he may recommend for the consideration of Congress; for the Secretary to attend on, and confer with, the committee if invited, and to furnish drafts of bills embracing his propositions, whe requested to do so. This is but an act of courtesy t the officer who recommends a measure connected with the business of his department, and whose duty it is,

when the law is enacted, to construe and execute it.

The chairman of the committee did consuit the Se cretary of the Treasury about the bills referred to, and he did so with the knowledge and assent of the committee. At his request, the Secretary of the Treasury transmitted to him drafts of most of the bills; but the dersigned declare it to be otterly untrue that any or of them was adopted by the committee. The measure recommended in the Treasury report were duly comrecommended in the Treasury report were duly con-sidered by the committee, but not one of the bills re-ported corresponded in form with any prepared by the Secretary, and most of them essentially differed in prin-ciple from the suggestions of that officer.

The member from Massachusetts not only alleges

The member from Massachusetts not only alleges that the majority of the committee approved the bills "without any examination," but he "avers that every important bill passed by the House came to the House, ready drawn, from the Executive," and that "the Executive majority in the House passed each bill forthwith, without alteration—and, so far as depends upon them, without debate." The bills reported by both committees, differing as they do, and the proceedings of the two Houses upon them, prove these statements to be two Houses upon them, prove these statements to be untrue The two Houses had assembled at an extra session, and there was a general desire, without regard to party, to make it a short one. From its different organization, the Senate was enabled to appoint its committees on the 8th of September; those of the House were not announced till the 11th of that month. Before the Committee of Ways and Means met on the 12th, the Committee on Finance of the Senate had been for some days employed in preparing their bills; conse-quently, the former had no opportunity to act upon them until after they had been matured by the latter commit-

until after they had been matured by the latter commit-tee. Both Houses were anxious that all the bills should be reported without delay, and the Committee of Ways and Means were in session daily till the most important were submitted to the House. In examining these bills, it will be found that the majority of the Committee of Ways and Means not only differed with the Senate committee, but with the report of the Secretary, both

in principle and in detail.

The bill of the Senate authorized Treasury notes to be issued bearing interest, the bill reported to the House

directed them to be issued without interest. The former proposed interest from the date, and for twelve months only, the latter provided that if they were not redeemed at the expiration of that term, the interest should then commence. The details of the two bills were consequently essentially different. At the suggestion of a member of the committee, an additional penal section was introduced into the bill, with the concurrence of the member from Massachusetts. The Secretary of the Treasury, in his report, proposed an issue of Treasury notes of small denominations; the bill of the Committee of Ways and Means authorized none to be issued under one hundred dollars. The former recommended that they should be re-issued; the latter contained no such provision.

The next and most important bill, commonly called the "divorce bill" was essentially amended. The bill reported to the Senate related wholly to the safe-keeping of the public money, and contained no provision as to the medium in which it was to be collected. The Committee of Ways and Means added another section providing for this material point, and altered the title of the bill accordingly.

The bill further postponing the payment of merchants' bonds, as reported to the House, contained an additional section, giving a credit on the duties on merchanties remaining in the public stores upon which the duties were payable in cash, a provision not suggested in the Treasury Report, nor embraced in the Senate bill. The Committee of Ways and Means, sobsequently, and unanimously, instructed its chairman to move to strike out the 2d section of the Senate bill. Which proposed to make the additional credit upon bonds applicable to importations, for one year from and after

which proposed to make the additional credit upon bonds applicable to importations, for one year from and after the 1st of October, and to insert the section referred to, extending the credit to three and six months on all mer-chandise which was then in the public warehouses, or might arrive before the 1st of November. Amendments were also made to other bills, but those mentioned were

cular in his statements about the origin and history of these bills. He says that the President and the Heads these onis. He says that the President and the Heads of the Departments "originate every thing, put every thing into the precise shape they wish, word for word, letter, for letter, comma for comma, and the Executive majority in the House pass each bill forthwith, without alteration—and so far as depends upon them without debate—just as it comes from their masters at the White House."

The undersigned, to ascertain whether these grave The undersigned, to ascertain whether these grave and extraordinary charges were founded in truth, have compared the drafts of the bills furnished to the chairman by the Secretary of the Treasury, with the bills reported by the Committee of Ways and Means. No drafts were received of the bills relating to the fourth instalment under the deposite act, the banks in this District, or the warehousing of merchandise. It is proper here to state, that a warehousing bill was reported at a former session by the present chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, and prior to the recommendation of the Secretary were those for adjusting claims on the deposite banks; extending the merchants' bonds; making public officers the keepers of the public money, and authorizing Treasury notes to be issued. The bills relating to the merchants' bonds, and the claims upon making public officers the keepers of the public money, and authorizing Treasury notes to be issued. The bills relating to the merchants' bonds, and the claims upon the banks reported by the Committee of Ways and Means, differ both in language and principle from those prepared by the Secretary. Of the ten sections of the bill providing for the safe-keeping of the public money, but three correspond with those framed by that officer. Some of the provisions in the Treasury note bills correspond: they are, however, generally such as are some of the provisions in the Treasury note bills correspond; they are, however, generally such as are
transcribed from the Treasury note act of 1815. But
to prove how utterly unfounded are the statements of
the member of Massachusetts, that the Secretary's drafts
were adopted by the Committee of Ways and Means
"word for word, letter for letter, comma for comma,"
and as a specimen of the general resemblance of these
bills, the undersigned present the three first sections of
the Secretary's draft, and of the bill reported by the
Committee relating to Treasury notes.

Committee relating to Treasury notes.

Draft of the Secretary of As reported by the Committee of the Escretary of the Treasury.

Be it enacted, &c. That whenever the available money in the Treasury applicable to public purposes. States of America in Conand not on deposite with the gress assembled. That the States, shall be at any time hereafter less than five millions of dollars, the President of the United States is hereby authorized to direct the issue of acknowledgments of indebtedness, in the form of Treasury notes, whenever the public officers such, the sum of twelve and creditors are willing to receive the same at par in payment of their claims, or others are willing to advance money on them at part, to aid in accomplishing the same payment.

2. That the amount of said notes which may from en bundred dollars for any one note, to be prepared, said notes which may from enacted. That the said time to time be issued shall not exceed the sum necess.

on exceed the sum neces-to be issued by the first sary to defray the estimated section of this act, shall be current demands on the reimbursed and redeemed Treasury during the current by the United States, at the the current receipts and the expiration of one year from five millions aforesaid, to be the dates of the said notes kept in the Treasury to meet respectively. The reimons prompt, for, shall be made at the Treasury of the United States to the holders of the

said notes respectively, up-on presentment; and in case of presentment and nonpayment of said note or notes, after they become due, the holder or holders shall be entitled to receive per cent. per annum from the date of demand of paybursement, according to the provisions of this act, the faith of the United States is 3, That said notes may Sec. 3. And be it further

on their denominations enacted. That the said not less than twenty dollars, Treasury notes shall be preand in form running to the pared under the direction of creditor, public officer, or the Secretary of the Treapurchaser, and order, or to sury, and shall be respec-bearer, redeemable at the uvely signed, on behalf of pleasure of the Government, the United States, by the and transferable by delivery Treasurer thereof, and counand endorsement of the out-tersigned by the Register of ginal payer thereon when to the Treasury; and that order. They shall, as checks those officers respectively or each other, and for pub-shall, as checks upon each or each other, and for pub-shall, as checks upon each ic safety, be signed by the other, and to secure the Treasurer and Register of p blic safety, keep separate, the Treasury, and an accu-full, and accurate accounts rate account be kept by each of the number, date, deof them of the amount is nomination, amount of all sued and redeemed, the the notes signed and counreasurer being charged terresigned by them respec-and required to account tively; which said accounts quarterly for all delivered to shall be carefully preserved him by the Register for sig- and placed on file in the nature. They shall in all Treasury Department; and, nature. They shall in all Treasury Department; and, cases be receivable for dues also, similar accounts, kept of all kinds to the United and preserved in the same States, and bear no interest, manner, of all the said notes unless it be found on trial, redeemed, as the same shall meet the public engage and the Treasurer shall far-ments will not be volunta-ther account quarterly for rily received by the public all such notes delivered to rily received by the public all such notes delivered to creditors and officers in payment, or by others for by the Register. The Treaspecie, without interest; in surer and Register of the which case interest may be tripulated to be paid on the face of them not to exceed consent and approbation of six per cent. per annum, the rate to be fixed by the President; and money may be traised thereon by sale or delivery at not less than par, sufficient to meet the current expenses as afore-current expenses as afore-said. If any of said nutes of mitterest be insued, they shall not be receivable for public dues of any kind.

shall not be receivable for public dues of any kind, unless otherwise directed by the President, until the Department is ready to re-deem them, and may then adopt that mode, or any other for such purpose, un-der such regulations as to their redemption, return, and cancelling, as may be deemed most safe and con-